

## Message Text

SECRET

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17

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 RSC-01 SCI-06 FEA-02 AEC-11 SS-20

SP-03 PM-07 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 NEA-14 DRC-01 /175 W

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R 262000Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7046

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

S E C R E T BUENOS AIRES 4724

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, AR, IN

SUBJ: ARGENTINE NUCLEAR PROGRAM

REF: STATE 135984

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES REFTEL AND WILL CONTINUE PERIODIC REPORTING BY AIRGRAM ON ARGENTINE NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS. FOLLOWING RECENTLY LEARNED ITEMS MAY BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST:

A. ATUCHA HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY CNEA FROM SIEMENS.

B. OFFICIAL GROUND-BREAKING TO MARK START OF CONSTRUCTION AT RIO TERCERO (CORDOBA) HAS TAKEN PLACE.

C. PRE-SELECTION PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED FOR ARGENTINE FIRMS TO CONSTRUCT THE BUILDING FOR THE FUEL FABRICATION PLANT. BIDS FOR ZIRCALOY TUBES FOR THE FUEL CLADDING WILL PROBABLY BE SOUGHT INTERNATIONALLY IN 1975, AND EQUIPMENT FOR PLANT (MOSTLY LOCAL, SOME FROM CANADA OR INDIA, AND SOME OPEN INTERNATIONALLY) IN 1976. PLANT WILL HAVE CAPACITY OF ROUGHLY 270 TONS PER YEAR, SO AS TO HANDLE ATUCHA 1 AND 2 AND CORDOBA RELOADS.

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D. NOTHING DEFINITE YET SO FAR AS WE CAN TELL RE THE HEAVY

WATER PLANT. OPERATION IN THE MID-1980'S WOULD SEEM LIKE  
WHAT IS BEING CONSIDERED.

E. PLANS ARE TO REACTIVATE THE SMALL CHEM. PROCESSING PILOT  
PLANT TO HANDLE RESEARCH REACTOR FUEL. POWER REACTOR FUEL  
REPROCESSING IS FAR IN THE FUTURE.

2. SEPTTEL DISCUSSES COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES IN 1C ABOVE,  
ASSUMING THESE ARE CONSISTENT WITH EXPORT CONTROL POLICIES.

HILL

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTRUCTION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BUENOS04724  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740169-0495  
**From:** BUENOS AIRES  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 72  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 135984  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 MAR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 MAR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <09 MAY 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARGENTINE NUCLEAR PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** TECH, AR, IN, CNEA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005